

Mansfield Middle School Association
November 15, 2012 Minutes

In attendance: Melissa Belden, Diane Briody, Marie Hodrinsky, Lisa Drzeweicki, Sarah Delia, Candace Morell

1. Call to Order

- a. D. Briody called the meeting to order at 7:12pm.

2. Reading of Minutes, 10-03-12

- a. L. Drzeweicki made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. M. Belden seconded the motion. The minutes were approved.

3. Officer Reports

- a. No President's Report
- b. Vice President's Report
 - i. Online Newsletter
 - ii. The goal is to provide more online notices and less paper going home.
 - iii. Soup kitchen donations will be collected outside the Main Office.
- c. Treasurer's Report
 - i. Tax forms
 - ii. Jeff Cryan scholarship fund
 - iii. 6th Grade low ropes course
- d. No Secretary's Report

4. Administrator's Report

- a. Four administrators from China visited during the week. They were honored at the Board of Education Meeting on Thursday evening. C. Norrish created a piece of Art and presented it to the Chinese principals.
- b. China Program status – MMS will continue to host visitors from China, still not sure of the future of the student component.
- c. Report cards went home this week and Parent/Teacher Conferences will be next week.
- d. There are several Winter Concerts coming up in the next several weeks.
- e. Field Trips:
 - i. The 8th grade is going to the Capitol
 - ii. The 5th grade is going to the Science Center in Hartford
 - iii. The 8th grade will also be going to the Mark Twain House
- f. There was a question about the report cards for the 5th and 6th grade; the Related Arts component was missing. C. Morell noted that the report cards have been re-printed and will go home with students tomorrow.
- g. The administration is opening up a Parent Portal in Power School, a letter will be sent home in January to explain the program.

- h. A grant was obtained from the MCC for a path around Bicentennial Pond.
- i. School Climate Survey – the results will be presented to the MBOE on Thursday. Overall the results were positive; the student population was honest and positive as well as being relevant.
- j. 8th Grade Congress was held; there were several items that were voted on.
 - i. If students choose to pay for an adult lunch, they should be able to get an adult lunch.
 - ii. In Related Arts, students advocated for additional sections of popular classes to be held during the After School program for interested students.
- k. Upper Courtyard – trees were removed over the summer and the area will be re-planted in the spring. In addition, with the help of staff, the area will be turned into a sculpture garden.

5. Faculty Report

- a. Carol Moran and Nora Dickinson visited Joe Fury for the morning news and Carol did the weather on camera.
- b. MMS play – still looking for a director; they are hoping to find someone they are already familiar with.

6. Old Business – By Laws

- a. M. Hodrinsky made a motion to remove Article 5, #3 and #3a of the By-Laws and L. Drzewiecki seconded the motion. The motion passed.
- b. M. Belden made a motion to adopt the By-Laws, D. Briody seconded the motion. The motion passed and the By-Laws were adopted with the changes noted above.

7. New Business

- a. Grants
 - i. L. Drzewiecki passed out copies of the Grant Requests. She explained each grant application and what the committee recommended for each grant. Discussion of the grants took place. Recommendations are as follows:
 1. Horizon Wings presentation for 5th graders - \$300
 2. Hovercraft project - \$478.50
 3. Junior Solar Sprint - \$186
 4. COPE and New Student Welcoming Events - \$350
 5. Mansfield Robotics Club - \$1,164.15
 6. Mileage Club - \$270
 7. Die Cuts and a Storage Unit - \$200
 8. Sculpture Garden - \$1370
 9. Inter-district Grant Field Trip for 7th grade - \$50
 10. Low Ropes Course for 6th graders - \$500
 11. Wireless Headset Microphone System -175.95
 12. Morning Movement Club - \$590.60

- ii. Total amount of funds recommended: \$5635.20. M. Belden made a motion to approve the grant amounts. M. Hodrinsky seconded the motion. The motion was approved.
 - iii. L. Drzewiecki will write a check to the School Fund and the teachers will be informed of their approved grant amount.
- b. Parent Representative for Grades 5-8
 - i. Earlier in the meeting, the Association passed a motion to remove Article 5, #3 and #3a from the By-Laws which deal with Grade Representation on the MMSA Board. Parent representatives are no longer required to sit on the Board.

8. Other Business - Fundraisers

- a. Fair Exchange Program – Product Catalog was released this week.
 - b. SCRIP – A Q-Notify will go out this week about the program, there should be time for 3 orders before Christmas.
 - c. Stop and Shop and Big Y announcement
 - d. Spring Fundraiser
9. **Adjournment** – M. Hodrinsky motioned to adjourn the meeting, M. Belden seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 8:30pm.

The next meeting will be on Wednesday, February 6 at 7:00pm in Room 99.

Sarah Delia
Acting Secretary